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Commissioners of the Land Office Announces Solar Facility Project in Comanche County

Oklahoma City, Okla. - Today the Commissioners of the Land Office (CLO) board approved a long-term commercial ground lease for a 4,349-acre solar facility. On June 3, 2020 a public auction was held at the headquarters of the Commissioners of the Land Office and the winning bidder was EDF Renewables, a company with a 30-year history in North America's solar and wind industry.

With approval of this lease, EDF is currently planning a 250-megawatt facility in Comanche County, southeast of Lawton. This facility would produce enough energy to potentially power 100,000 homes.

The first five years will be the development phase and the CLO will receive \$67,720 for the first year's rental. It is expected that approximately 2,500 acres will be suitable for the project and the remaining land will be returned to the CLO to remain in the agricultural lease program.

Once the construction and production phases commence the yearly annual rent will be \$1.2 million, compared to the agricultural rate of \$87,800 per year for the same 2,500 acres.

"This project is a win for all Oklahomans," said Gov. Kevin Stitt, Chairman of the Commissioners of the Land Office. "It will bring valuable jobs and economic development benefits to Comanche County and the substantial gain in rental income will benefit students in public schools across the state."

This project will produce a significant increase in trust revenue that will be distributed to Oklahoma K-12 schools and designated higher education institutions.

"Today's announcement is great news for Comanche County, and all of Oklahoma," said Lt. Gov Pinnell, Vice Chairman of the Commissioners of the Land Office. "This innovative use of CLO land will be a benefit to residents of southwest Oklahoma, as well as uphold CLO's mission to maximize revenue to directly benefit Oklahoma schools."

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